

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 3733  
PATENT**  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 09955.0047-00000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Frédéric FORTIN et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3733  
Application No.: 10/505,469 ) Examiner: Woodall, Nicholas W.  
Filed: August 20, 2004 )  
For: FLEXIBLE VERTEBRAL LINKING ) Confirmation No.: 4004  
DEVICE )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed October 7, 2008, and pursuant to  
37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** follow the amendment sections of this paper.